

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SAIGON 07876 051119 Z

13

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 115848

O 051030 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1227

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CINCPAC

USSAF 7 AF

CINCSAC

S E C R E T SAIGON 7876

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, VS, CA

SUBJECT: U. S. AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE AND ICCS FLIGHTS

1. PRIOR RECEIPT REFTEL WHITEHOUSE AND BG MAGLIONE, USAF, MET WITH CANDELS GAUVIN AND SINGLETON. CANADIANS WERE INFORMED THAT A U. S. DRONE HAD BEEN IN THE NORTHERN QUANG TRI THE MORNING OF MAY 2. WE STRESSED THAT HELICOPTERS HAD RECEIVED FIRE AT 1036 LOCAL WHEREAS ACCORDING TO 7 AF DRONE HAD NOT PASSED THROUGH AREA UNTIL 1050. THIS USAF INFORMATION APPEARED TO BE CONFIRMED BY UNIDENTIFIED OBSERVERS ON THE SCENE.

2. CANDELS WERE ASSURED THAT MEASURES WERE BEING TAKEN TO OBTAIN FROM AIR AMERICA ICCS FLIGHT PLANS TO CONTESTED OR ENEMY CONTROLLED AREAS (XA MAT, AN LOC, DUC CO, BEN HET AND NORTHERN QUANG TRI) IN ORDER TO AVOID REPETITION THIS SITUATION.

3. DAO (MAGLIONE) WILL ALSO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH VNAF AND SEEK ASSURANCES THAT IT WILL TAKE SIMILAR PRECAUTIONS.

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4. STATEMENTS MADE ON THIS SUBJECT AT PRG WEEKLY PRESS
CONFERENCE AT TAN SON NHUT FOLLOW SEPTTEL. WE HAVE DECLINED
COMMENT ON DRONE IN RESPONSE SEVERAL PRESS QUERIES.
CANADIANS HOPE PRESS TREATMENT CAN BE MUTED SO THAT DRONE
ISSUE DOES NOT DIVERT ATTENTION FROM FACT PRG FIRED AT HELICOPTERS.
THEY RECALL THAT DISCUSSION OF LAO BAO INCIDENT BECAME CENTERED
ON WHEREABOUTS OF DOWNED CHOPPERS RATHER THAN ON SHOOTING
INCIDENT. WE SHARE THEIR VIEW THAT DRONE SHOULD NOT BECOME A
RED HERRING.
BUNKER

SECRET
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS
*** Current Classification *** SECRET

Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 05 MAY 1973
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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Subject: U. S. AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE AND ICCS FLIGHTS
TAGS: MARR, CA
To: BANGKOK
BUDAPEST
CINCPAC
JAKARTA
OTTAWA
SECSTATE WASHDC

SS
USSAF 7 AF
WARSAW

Type: TE

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